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made from the process of claim 10.

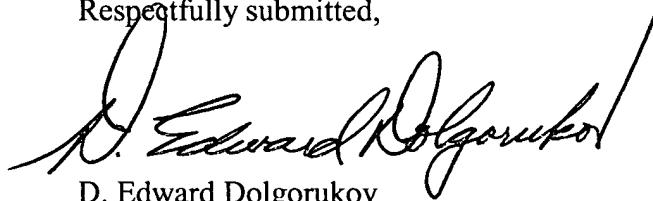
14. (amended) The cross-linker as claimed in Claim 11, comprising a mixture of β -hydroxyalkylamide and another cross linker selected from the β -hydroxyalkylamides and/or epoxies.

REMARKS

This amendment is being presented in order to place the claims of the application in better condition for examination. Claims 2-14 have been amended herein. Multiple dependent claims have been removed, and more common English syntax has been substituted in the claims. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added in the presentation of these claims.

Favorable consideration of the present application and the passing of this application to issue with all claims allowed is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



D. Edward Dolgorukov
Registration No. 26,266

ATTORNEYS

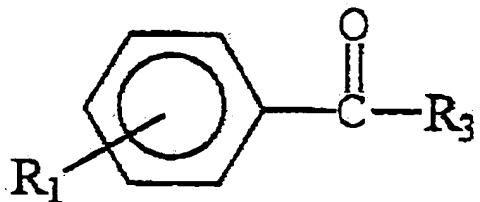
Marshall & Melhorn
Four SeaGate - 8th Floor
Toledo, Ohio 43604
(419) 249-7100

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

2. (amended) β -hydroxyalkylamide as claimed in Claim 1, [characterized by the fact that]
wherein R₁ is H, t-butyl, i-propyl or pentyl and is located in the para position to the CO group.

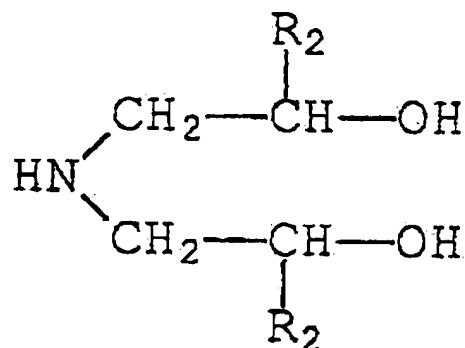
3. (amended) β -hydroxyalkylamide as claimed in Claim 2, [characterized by the fact that]
wherein R₁ is H and R₂ is CH₃.

4. (amended) Process for the production of β -hydroxyalkylamides as claimed in [at least one of the Claims 1 to 3, characterized by the fact that] Claim 1, wherein a carboxylic acid derivative having the general Formula II:



II

where R_3 is halogen or OR_4 , whereby R_4 stands for a linear C_1 to C_5 alkyl, is reacted with an alkanol amine having the general Formula III:



III

and where R_1 and R_2 are defined as indicated above.

5. (amended) Process as claimed in Claim 4, [characterized by the fact that] wherein a carboxylic acid derivative having the general Formula II where R₃ is a halogen is reacted at -10 to 25 °C with the alkanol amine having the general Formula III.

6. (amended) Process as claimed in Claim 5, [characterized by the fact that] wherein benzoyl chloride is used as the carboxylic acid derivative and diisopropanol amine as the alkanol amine.

7. (amended) Process as claimed in Claim 4, [characterized by the fact that] wherein a carboxylic acid derivative having the general Formula II with R₃-OR₄, where R₂ is as defined above, is reacted at 25 to 150°C with an alkanol amine having the general Formula III.

8. (amended) Process as claimed in [at least one of the Claims 4 to 7, characterized by the fact that] Claim 4, wherein the carboxylic acid derivative having the general Formula II and the alkanol amine having the general Formula III are reacted in a solvent with vigorous agitation or stirring.

9. (amended) Process as claimed in [at least one of the Claims 4 to 8, characterized by the fact that] Claim 4, wherein aromatic hydrocarbons such as benzene, toluene or xylene and/or ether are used as the solvent.

10. (amended) Process as claimed in [at least one of the Claims 4 to 9, characterized by the fact that] Claim 4, wherein the alkanol amine is presented first and the carboxylic acid derivative is added with vigorous agitation or stirring.

11. (amended) A cross-linker for polymers comprising [Use of] the β -hydroxyalkylamide as claimed in [one of the Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1 [as a cross linker for polymers].

12. (amended) A cross-linker for polymers comprising [Use of] the β -hydroxyalkylamide as claimed in [one of the Claims 1 to 3] Claim 1 [as a cross linker for powder coats].

13. (amended) A [Use as claimed in Claim 10, characterized by the fact that it is used as a] cross linker for polyester powder coats comprising the β -hydroxyalkylamide made from the process of claim 10.

14. (amended) The cross-linker [Use] as claimed in Claim 11, [characterized by the fact that] comprising a mixture of β -hydroxyalkylamide and another cross linker selected from the β -hydroxyalkylamides and/or epoxies [is used as the cross linker].